## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-07** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04

SIL-01 L-02 INT-05 AGR-10 /103 W

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R 241553Z MAR 75 FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0450 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

**UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 2034** 

DEPARTMENT PASS COMMERCE & TREASURY

GENEVA ATTEN: US TRADE DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, BPRO, AR

SUBJECT: NEW IMPORT REGULATIONS

REF: BA-1490; BA-1959

- 1. GENERAL MARCH 3 DEVALUATION HAS BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES IN GOA IMPORT REGULATIONS9 FOLLOWING ARE SIGNIFICANT FEATURES OF CURRENT IMPORT REGIME WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO US EXPORTERS.
- 2. IMPORT LISTS ALL IMPORTS NOW DIVIDED INTO THREE LISTS
  A, B, C. LIST A IS PRIMARILY RAW MATERIALS AND CORRESPONDS
  TO LIST 1 UNDER CENTRAL BANK CIRCULAR RC446 (OCT. 20, 1972),
  AS MODIFIED. ITEMS ON THIS LIST RECEIVE COMMERCIAL RATE OF
  10 PESOS PER DOLLAR. LIST B IS SHORT AND INCLUDES PRIMARILY
  PETROLEUM EXTRACTION AND PERFORATION EQUIPMENT, OTHER MINING
  EQUIPMENT, AND ELECTRICAL GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION EQUIPMENT. ITEMS ON LIST RECEIVE MIXED RATE OF 13.06 PESOS PER
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DOLLAR I.E. 40 PERCENT AT COMMERCIAL RATE AND 60 PERCENT AT

FINANCIAL RATE.

LIST C REMAINING ITEMS PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN
LIST 2 UNDER CENTRAL BANK CIRCULAR RC446 (OCT. 20, 1972).
ITEMS ON THIS LIST RECEIVE FINANCIAL RATE OF 15.10 PESOS
PER DOLLAR

- 3. LICENSES IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM TIGHTENED UP IN SENSE SWORN DECLARATIONS BY IMPORTER NO LONGER WILL RECEIVE AUTOMATIC APPROVAL BY GOA. EACH DECLARATION TO BE CAREFULLY REVIEWED BY MINISTRY OF ECONOMY. IMPORT APPROVALS WILL COVER MAXIMUM FOUR MONTH REQUIREMENTS (PREVIOUSLY EIGHT MONTHS).
- 4. LAFTA IMPORTS ON APPORVED LISTS FROM LAFTA COUNTRIES WILL NO LONGER BE APPROVED AUTOMATICALLY FOR UNLIMITED QUANTITIES AS PERMITTED UNDER RESOLUTION 691/73. IT APPEARS THEY WILL NOW BE GENERALLY SUBJECT TO SAME REGULATIONS AS OTHER IMPORTS, ALTHOUGH CONTINUING TO ENJOY PREFERENTIAL DUTIES.
- 5. CRITICAL IMPORTS MECHANISM FOR AUTOMATIC APPROVAL OF UNLIMITED QUANTITY OF CRITICAL IMPORTS ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION 775 OF DEC. 17, 1973 IS ALSO TERMINATED.
- 6. FINANCING ALL IMPORTS WILL ONCE MORE REQUIRE MINIMAL 180 DAY FINANCING , EXCEPT IN CASE OF ITEMS WHERE UNDER \$2,000. IN PAST, CENTRAL BANK HAD BEEN GRANTING MORE GENEROUS EXCEPTION TO THIS REQUIREMENT.
- 7. PRIOR IMPORT DEPOSITS PRIOR IMPORT DEPOSIT REQUIRE-MENTS ARE RAISED FROM 40 PERCENT TO 100 PERCENT FOR ALL IMPORTS WITH FOREIGN EXCHANGE FORWARD COVER. (CENTRAL BANK TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION 3148 DATED JANUARY 31, 1975). AS BEFORE, A 40 PERCENT PRIOR DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED FOR ALL IMPORTS EXCEPT THOSE LISTED ON CENTRAL BANK CIRCULAR RC435, THOSE IMPORTED FROM LAFTA COUNTRIES, AND THOSE IMPORTS MADE BY THE GOA, AND FOR ITS ENTERPRISES AND BRANCHES. IN PRACTISE, HOWEVER, ONLY ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF TOTAL ARGENTINE IMPORTS REQUIRE PRIOR DEPOSIT. NOTE: DUE TO CONFUSION IN INITIAL CENTRAL BANK UNCLASSIFIED

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INSTRUCTION, IT APPEARED THAT INCREASED DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT APPLIED TO VIRTUALLY ALL IMPORTS.

8. COMMENT: IMPORTS HAVE NOW BEEN EFFECTIVELY FROZEN SINCE LATE FEBRUARY, BUT GOA EXPECTED TO BEGIN TO APPROVE NEW, AND REVALIDATED, IMPORT DECLARATIONS VERY SOON. OVERALL IMPACT OF NEW MEASURES IS TO TIGHTEN UP ON GOA IMPORT CONTROL SYSTEM.

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TAGS: EFIN, BPRO, ETRD, AR
To: STATE

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